

"We will watch every move they make and in the meantime prepare for action."

I have republished that editorial in order to help some of the blind to see, some of the deaf to hear. It is more frank and outspoken than many of the labor newspapers are, but it gives expression to the innermost feelings of the working class.

I know there are those who will think such sentiment is the ravings of a disturbed mind, but it is the sentiment of hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of men just the same; and we had better take it into account.

In the same issue of the Colorado Worker were printed the resolutions adopted by the Typographical Union of Denver, in which they sided with the coal miners and appropriated \$500 from their treasury to buy arms, if need be.

And the Typographical Union is one of the most conservative as well as one of the best educated bodies in the labor movement.

On the first page of the same issue from which I have quoted is a "Call to Arms," published in heavy, black-faced type, and boldly signed by nine labor leaders; and here is the wording of the call:

"Organize the men in your community in companies of volunteers to protect the people of Colorado against the murder and cremation of men, women and children by armed assassins in the employ of coal corporations, serving under the guise of state militiamen.

"Gather together for defensive purposes all arms and ammunition legally available. Send name of leader of your company and actual number of men enlisted at once by wire; phone or mail to W. T. Hickey, Secretary of the State Federation of Labor.

"Hold all companies subject to order.

"People having arms to spare for these defensive measures are requested to furnish same to local companies, and where no company exists, send them to the State Federation of Labor.

"The state is furnishing us no protection and we must protect ourselves, our wives and children, from these murderous assassins. We seek no quarrel with the state and we expect to break no law. We intend to exercise our lawful rights as citizens, to defend our homes and our constitutional rights."

All this was published after the Ludlow massacre, but before President Wilson decided to send federal troops into Colorado. It may be that the prompt action of the president will avert war, but those who read what I have printed here will have a better idea of how near Colorado was to bloody revolution than they would get from reading the news sent from Colorado to the big dailies.

The policy of suppressing such news as this will serve no purpose, unless it be to inspire the exploiters of labor with a false sense of security. It will not, however, make them secure. It will not soften the bitterness of the exploited, and it will not deter them from action if they are driven to the last ditch by such inhuman beasts as Rockefeller.

I can't believe that many men in the employing class have the slightest conception of the industrial situation in this country. They don't know that the strikers in the Michigan copper country had guns and were ready to fight. They don't know that the only reason there was not as bloody war in the copper country as there has been in Colorado was because labor leaders held the rank and file back and kept them from fighting openly the state militia and McNaughton's private army of gunmen.

Guns in the hands of state militia, of the private armies of capital, or